

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1 - 31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method for removing a selected portion of tissue from a surface of a body cavity, comprising the steps of:

inserting into the body cavity an insertion device;

advancing a substantially transparent flexible cup through a lumen of the insertion device in a folded insertion configuration;

advancing the flexible cup distally from the lumen of the insertion device, wherein the flexible cup deploys to an operative configuration in which the flexible cup is substantially funnel shaped as it exits the lumen;

visually positioning the flexible cup adjacent to the selected portion of tissue by observing the selected portion of tissue at least partially through the flexible cup;

applying a vacuum pressure to an interior of the flexible cup to draw the selected portion of tissue thereinto;

severing the selected portion of the tissue from surrounding tissue; [[and]]

withdrawing the flexible cup into the lumen while maintaining vacuum pressure within the flexible cup to retain the severed tissue within the flexible cup; and

maintaining the selected portion of tissue within the flexible cup during withdrawal of the flexible cup from the body.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method for removing a selected portion of tissue from a surface of a body cavity, comprising the steps of:

inserting into the body cavity an insertion device;

advancing a substantially transparent flexible cup through a lumen of the insertion device in a folded insertion configuration;

advancing the flexible cup distally from the lumen of the insertion device, wherein the flexible cup deploys to an operative configuration in which the flexible cup is substantially funnel shaped as it exits the lumen;

visually positioning the flexible cup adjacent to the selected portion of tissue by observing the selected portion of tissue at least partially through the flexible cup;

applying a vacuum pressure to an interior of the flexible cup to draw the selected portion of tissue thereinto;

fastening portions of tissue around a periphery of the selected portion of tissue;

severing the selected portion of tissue from the surrounding tissue, wherein the portions of tissue around the periphery of the selected portion of tissue are fastened together by stapling; [[and]]

withdrawing the flexible cup into the lumen while maintaining vacuum pressure within the flexible cup to retain the severed tissue within the flexible cup; and

maintaining the selected portion of tissue within the flexible cup during withdrawal of the flexible cup from the body.

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of withdrawing the flexible cup proximally relative to the insertion device to alter a position of the selected portion of tissue relative to the insertion device.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein the insertion device

includes an endoscope, and wherein the visually positioning step includes the sub steps of:

positioning the endoscope to view the selected portion of tissue; and

maneuvering the transparent flexible cup relative to the endoscope to observe the selected portion of tissue through the flexible cup so that the selected portion of tissue and a safety margin area therearound are substantially centered within the transparent flexible cup.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of:

fastening portions of tissue around a periphery of the selected portion of tissue.

39. (Canceled)